

ARTICLE 201

SOCIAL GOALS, POLICIES, AND STRATEGIES

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL POLICIES

The basic idea of the following social policies for Detroit is to help create and maintain positive neighborhood and family environments that will support a productive, informed, and concerned citizenry and community. Some of the policies speak to the eliminating of factors that hurt the Detroit community, such as limited educational achievement, drug dependency, and lack of job opportunity.

The policies also make clear that a socially healthy community is not the responsibility of government alone but everyone shoulders a portion of the work to be done. This involves churches, neighborhood associations, block clubs, schools, and civic associations.

The quality of Detroit's social environment has a powerful impact on the stability of households and thus on the stability of the level of population in the City. It is the aim of these policies to improve the quality of Detroit's social environment and to make Detroit a more attractive place for people wishing to live and raise their families here.

The policies herein address a wide range of social needs and pertain to areas where, in some cases, the City has no direct control. Nevertheless, the City of Detroit must do all in its power to serve its people's needs and to articulate and advocate those needs whenever necessary.

EDUCATION POLICIES

□ POLICY 201-1: *Continual education.*

Recognize that in today's society good education is an essential preparation for all aspects of life, that education must be continual throughout an individual's life, and that many institutions, not just the school system, do or could contribute to the education process.

METHODS:

- Increasing public awareness of the multiple purposes of education, the continual need for it, and the diverse potential sources of learning.

- Emphasizing the school system as a primary component of the education process while incorporating other appropriate components.
- Working for increased use of the media as instruments for public education.

❑ **POLICY 201-2: *Educational environment.***

Insure that there is a safe and secure environment conducive to the learning process in the schools, and that pupils have adequate opportunities to have the good nutrition, general good health, and supportive social services necessary to enable them to learn at an optimum level.

METHODS:

- Encouraging the schools to develop and enforce more evenly and consistently a student code of conduct that students and faculty perceive as safe, equitable, and beneficial.
- Enforcing rules and regulations that isolate rowdy and intimidating members of the community from the student body.
- Utilizing influential members of the community to stress the importance of education to students and provide role models on a personal contact basis.
- Encouraging the schools to assign early morning patrol shifts to monitor the arrival of students and staff to prevent assaults and thefts; developing means such as CCTV, alarms, nontransparent doorways, etc., to prevent unauthorized entry to school facilities; increasing school security personnel; increasing community patrol and block club watch groups; establishing a high school student security apprentice program.
- Developing or improving programs to educate parents and the community to be more instrumental in the primary and secondary educational process. Encouraging parents to make home more conducive to and supportive of their children's learning.
- Reinforcing and improving programs intended to correct or improve conditions that make learning difficult for individual pupils; developing new programs, where necessary.

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- Encouraging the reinstatement of school community agents specifically charged with the task of working to improve the immediate community in which the school is located.

□ **POLICY 201-3: *Quality education.***

Insure that the quality of instruction in the schools is the best available; utilizing state-of-the-art methods and equipment.

METHODS:

- Encouraging the schools to hire the most competent teachers available, teachers well-qualified in the subject matter they teach, and with dedication to assisting students to learn. Insist that teachers continually upgrade their knowledge and skills.
- Encouraging the schools to require teachers to keep abreast of the latest teaching methods and equipment, and to teach about the implications of the latest important technological innovations.
- Encouraging the schools to develop diverse pay scales that can adjust to changing demand in key teaching areas.
- Working to increase the length of the school day and year, to decrease class sizes and teachers' extra duties, and increase teacher salaries with rewards for excellence in teaching.
- Encouraging the schools to establish a teacher evaluation system that rewards superior teachers, encourages average teachers to improve, and improves or terminates inadequate teachers.
- Encouraging the schools to develop liaisons with private enterprise that might lead to the acquisition of various state-of-the-art equipment.

□ **POLICY 201-4: *Basic competency.***

Encourage policies that will keep the dropout rate from high school as low as possible, and insure that those completing their secondary education have achieved a basic degree of competency in the skills required for everyday living and the skills necessary to compete in the job market.

METHODS:

- Requiring individuals to pass basic competency tests.
- Encouraging schools to motivate all students and help reduce dropout rates.
- Creating alternative programs for those students unable to cope with the traditional environment.
- Providing special programs for the gifted and handicapped.
- Improving marketing of the vocational-technical schools.
- Providing for the continued monitoring of the job market to determine trends in occupations and to determine which occupational skills may be needed.
- Improving liaisons with the business community to provide for on-the-job skill development, access to entry level jobs, and to monitor occupational trends.

❑ **POLICY 201-5: *Adult education.***

Insure that the educational system offers opportunities for adults to acquire the skills needed for functional day-to-day living as well as the ever-changing job market.

METHODS:

- Utilizing the existing educational network to train adults in basic skills.
- Developing programs with employers to offer remedial education to employees.
- Utilizing the new vocational/technical centers for adults and youth.

❑ **POLICY 201-6: *Post-secondary education system.***

Encourage a post-secondary education system that makes excellent education available to all who are qualified in the community, educates students to fulfill their personal potential as well as to staff the businesses and institutions of the area, advances basic knowledge and provides research for the private and public

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sectors of the community, and contributes to an attractive and dynamic urban environment.

METHODS:

- Urging that scholarship programs and other financial assistance for the qualified and needy student be maintained.
- Encouraging the universities to extend the outreach of their programs to satellite locations within the City, e.g., the work place.
- Encouraging post-secondary institutions to provide for the continued monitoring of the job market to determine trends in occupations.
- Developing a coordination mechanism among industry, government, and academic institutions to encourage exchange of ideas and staff to increase the practical relevancy of what is taught and its applications.
- Encouraging colleges and universities to identify and design university research that would help government and industry as well as advance basic knowledge.
- Encouraging universities to offer to students majoring in science or mathematics auxiliary teacher certification programs.
- Regulating private vocational schools to encourage high quality relevant training.

❑ **POLICY 201-7: *Multi-faceted education.***

Encourage education programs which educate the whole person, that help the individual toward personal fulfillment, and instill self-discipline and responsibility.

METHODS:

- Encouraging programs to educate how the mind and body work, how they can be nurtured, and how to become socially productive.
- Encouraging students to perform community service as a way of nurturing social skills.

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- Promoting the concepts and training of the liberating education, i.e., developing critical awareness, skills of inquiry and analysis, and self-assurance and independence.
- Encouraging the availability of enrichment programs for adults.

❑ **POLICY 201-8: *Education - culture and values.***

Encourage all students, from an early age, to develop a value system that upholds the general ideals of society.

METHODS:

- Stressing the importance of the family unit as the basic structural element of society.
- Impressing upon young adults from an early age the responsibilities of having and raising children.
- Teaching youngsters about drugs, alcohol, the ultimate futility of criminal behavior and values.
- Developing the student's sense of ethics about work, honesty, and being productive, useful members of society.
- Utilizing positive, inspiring examples and role models to demonstrate the pleasures in a life of honest work, development of skills, achievement, family, community and wholesome recreation, even at a modest level of income and wealth.

LIBRARY POLICIES

❑ **POLICY 201-9: *Financial support for public libraries.***

Support increasing and stabilizing financial support for the public library system.

METHODS:

- Assuring State support of the costs of the Main Library.

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- Encouraging citizen support groups for the Library system.
- Reducing financial costs from loss of unreturned or damaged books by implementing the local misdemeanor ordinance.

❑ **POLICY 201-10: *Technological innovations in library services.***

Encourage use of the latest technological innovations in the operations and delivery of services by the library system to the public.

METHODS:

- Encouraging the library system to implement the long-range plan and budget for phasing in technological improvements.
- Encouraging the system to seek grants and in-kind contributions.
- Encouraging public libraries to provide training and access to computers; access to public domain programs; develop connections for home computers to information systems; make use of cable and public television; expand use of bookmobiles, borrowing of tapes and records, including video tapes; and, aid the public in accessing university and private information sources generally.

RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE POLICIES

❑ **POLICY 201-11: *Leisure time.***

Recognize the importance of leisure time activities for mental, physical, and social health, and for the development of human potential; and, educate for the self-awareness and leisure skills necessary for life-long constructive uses of leisure.

METHODS:

- Working with the educational system to establish a leisure education program for developing the whole person.
- Establishing computerized directories free to users showing location and hours of popular and traditional leisure opportunities.

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- Providing leisure counselors in multi-service centers and as field workers.
- Developing and promoting mass media programs supportive of whole person development.
- Developing more community service volunteer programs.
- Better interrelating leisure with other human service systems for joint sharing.

□ **POLICY 201-12: *Public outdoor recreation.***

Provide opportunities for public outdoor recreation activities in proportion to population density and to the availability of alternative (non-City) services.

METHODS:

- Retaining and improving existing recreation land.
- Where feasible, consolidating small inadequate parcels into larger, more functional sites.
- Acquiring and developing new recreation land in underserved areas of the City.
- Insuring that adequate maintenance funds are available for new recreational property and facility acquisitions.
- Acquiring public easements where outright purchase of land is not feasible.

□ **POLICY 201-13: *Public indoor recreation.***

Provide opportunities for public indoor recreation activities in proportion to population density and to the availability of alternative (non-City) services.

METHODS:

- Providing indoor recreation space, as capital and operations funds permit.
- Renovating recreation facilities to increase accessibility for handicapped persons and to protect the health and safety of users.

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- Insuring that programs are offered to all age groups of both genders in a safe and secure setting.
- Providing recreation programs for special population groups, including senior citizens, and physically and mentally handicapped persons.
- Continuing to broaden the functions of recreation and community centers to provide a multi-service approach to meeting the human service needs of all age groups and populations.

□ **POLICY 201-14: *Public parks and recreation: coordination.***

Improve coordination efforts between City government and non-City agencies providing recreation services to City youth, seniors, and handicapped.

METHODS:

- Increasing coordination between the City administration and the Detroit Public Schools.
- Converting surplus private as well as public properties to recreation uses.
- Strengthening coordination between the public and the private non-profit sector providers.
- Continuing to coordinate between City recreation providers and arts agencies and facilities for cultural arts expansion.
- Establishing greater coordination between the City and State handicapped and community placement recreation services.
- Developing joint publicity programs aprising the community of the various recreation opportunities.

□ **POLICY 201-15: *Financial support for public parks and recreation.***

Increase financial support from non-City sources for public parks and recreation programs.

METHODS:

- Supporting efforts to increase State and Federal funding.
- Increasing City revenues by use of fees for service and concessionaires.
- Working with developers in joint ventures.
- Expanding contributions to City parks and recreational programs from private sources.

❑ **POLICY 201-16: *Arts and culture: participation.***

Increase exposure to, and participation in, traditional art activities by new audiences.

METHODS:

- Supporting and increasing student, senior, and other special audience transportation to centers of traditional culture and related cultural events.
- Fostering arts and awareness of local history.
- Encouraging the availability for school-related programs of professional artists and historians and the traditional arts; support public exhibitions, concerts, plays, and recitations in nontraditional places.
- Encouraging use of all types of media in promoting awareness and education in the arts and local history.

❑ **POLICY 201-17: *Ethnic and neighborhood arts.***

Encourage ethnic art activities and neighborhood arts events.

METHODS:

- Encouraging neighborhood ethnic and arts/crafts festivals.
- Reinforcing smaller ethnic centers and encouraging activities on a year-round basis.

- Continuing and increasing support for ethnic cultural institutions.
- Encouraging use of ethnic arts and architectural elements in new building development.
- Promoting art in public places.
- Examining the feasibility of a special high school for the visual and performing arts; strengthen the current programs for the performing arts in the public schools.
- Utilizing neighborhood theaters as cable programming feed centers, providing neighborhood arts activities with a broader audience.

❑ **POLICY 201-18: *Historic preservation - significant buildings.***

Preserve exceptionally significant individual historic buildings, especially those illustrating phases of Detroit's history, and those which are meaningful to contemporary Detroiters interested in the past history of their own or other ethnic groups.

METHODS:

- Preserving prominent and excellent examples of various historic building styles.
- Identifying people, events, locations, and structures that are significant to the City's history, and preserving buildings, placing plaques, or recording by photography and representative artifacts to preserve that heritage.
- Recognizing places of historic events for a sense of heritage among residents and to make the City more interesting and understandable to visitors.
- Making sure the relevant local history is recorded and presented in museums and schools.
- Recognizing and preserving the multi-ethnicity of the City as it relates to the architecture, major events, and contributions of the City residents.

❑ **POLICY 201-19: *Artists' working and living conditions.***

Facilitate improvements in artists' working and living conditions.

METHODS:

- Fostering the establishment of low cost health and legal services for artists and their families.
- Encouraging the legal conversion of lofts into artists studios.
- Encouraging groups of artists to develop and organize joint exhibits and marketing outlets.
- Supporting the establishment of centers for drama, dance, music, and other appropriate arts.
- Establishing an artists' co-op, owned by artists themselves, for the purchase and rental of supplies, materials, and equipment.
- Establishing an artist access media center to provide services and equipment.
- Encouraging the services businesses to hire artists on a part-time basis.

❑ **POLICY 201-20: *Financial support for arts and culture.***

Foster and insure financial support for the arts, with the aim of rationalizing, stabilizing, and expanding Detroit's already established but fragmented arts and culture industry.

METHODS:

- Supporting efforts to increase Federal funding to the arts.
- Supporting the reestablishment of public service arts employment programs.
- Supporting increases in State support and Detroit representations for the arts and cultural institutions in Detroit.
- Encouraging the development of cooperation for arts funding.

- Encouraging new private and corporate sponsorships for the arts.
- Examining the current fee structure of City museums and zoo to maximize revenues.
- Encouraging private support groups for all museums and zoo.
- Helping foster the recognition by the private sector that the arts and culture make noteworthy contributions to the daily economy of the City.
- Exploring the possibility of tax incentive bonds for cultural investment.
- Providing developmental assistance for the reforming of a Detroit-based recording industry; aid in the development of other arts and cottage industries.
- Encouraging the economic growth of the non-profit arts sector.
- Providing developmental assistance to arts organizations in setting up enterprises.
- Encouraging the development of booking, promotion, and arts marketing enterprises.
- Promoting arts and cultural activities for tourism.
- Encouraging and providing support to Detroit artists and arts organizations who are eligible to apply for funding.

□ **POLICY 201-21: *Natural heritage.***

Recognize the role of humans in relation to their natural heritage and foster conditions that will insure this heritage for generations to come.

METHODS:

- Repairing or replacing the Zoological Park exhibits and training staff, applying current knowledge of animal preservation and propagation.

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- Strengthening educational services at the Zoological Park, including construction of an educational center and interpretive signage.
- Increasing marketing of natural heritage resources available in City facilities.
- Promoting public awareness programs in ecology and our natural heritage.

□ **POLICY 201-22: *Private non-profit recreation services: voluntary/charitable agencies.***

Encourage increases in recreation services provided by the voluntary/charitable agencies in areas now underserved by them.

METHODS:

- Strengthening coordination between recreation services providers for efficient and equitable allocation of resources.
- Encouraging the establishment of new recreation services or the expansion of recreation services in high youth, low-income areas of the City.
- Assisting in the promotion of programs and the recruiting of volunteers to lead groups.
- Supporting the retention of non-profit recreation agencies.

□ **POLICY 201-23: *Private non-profit recreation services: employers and/or unions.***

Encourage employers and/or unions to provide their employees with convenient recreation services and an esthetically pleasing work environment.

METHODS:

- Encouraging businesses to establish fitness and recreation programs.
- Insuring that the City is a model for employers in establishing fitness programs.
- Encouraging owners of large buildings to provide some common space for fitness programs.

- Encouraging landscaping, plazas, and landscapes in the work environment.
- Encouraging quality of workplace conditions.

❑ **POLICY 201-24: *Private non-profit recreation services: senior residential and community placement.***

Encourage operators of senior residential and community placement facilities to provide recreation programming for their residents.

METHODS:

- Pressing for legislation requiring that senior residential centers provide recreation services for their residents.
- Developing a cadre of professionals to train volunteers to visit and provide programs at senior residential centers.
- Obtaining funding from the State to finance some of the recreational services needed.

❑ **POLICY 201-25: *Private non-profit recreation services: community recreation associations.***

Encourage the establishment of locally-supported community recreation associations.

METHOD:

Developing and distributing an instructions package for establishing community recreation associations and working with communities to help them establish them.

HEALTH POLICIES

❑ **POLICY 201-26: *Protection of health.***

Take measures to protect residents, workers, and visitors from threats to their health in an urban environment such as Detroit that contains various health hazards with the potential to kill, injure, and disable individuals and substantially affect the health of the entire community.

METHODS:

- Lessening the potential for traffic accidents and reducing the likelihood of death and injury by improving trafficways.
- Lessening the demand on trafficway systems by encouraging the use and improvement of public transportation.
- Reducing violent deaths including accidents, homicides, and suicides by encouraging alcohol and drug abuse prevention through education.
- Eliminating environmental hazards through the continued monitoring of air and water, adequate sewage disposal, and requiring auto safety and emission inspection.
- Updating regulations on the use of pesticides and other chemicals.
- Updating regulations on the transportation of hazardous chemicals.
- Encouraging health and sex education programs in the school system with emphasis on communicable diseases such as Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

❑ **POLICY 201-27: *Prevention of expensive medical treatment.***

Direct more health care financial resources toward preventive efforts which reduce the necessity for expensive in-patient medical treatment.

METHODS:

- Encouraging inter-institutional cooperation to eliminate duplication of resources.
- Supporting legislative action requiring hospitals to control capital expenditures.
- Supporting legislation requiring hospitals to contain annual increases in spending.

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- Encouraging changes in insurance plans to stimulate increased consumer awareness of costs.
- Encouraging the implementation of stricter measures to eliminate financial abuse of prepaid medical/health programs.
- Encouraging the enactment of legislation to allow health care coverage of the unemployed by Medicaid.
- Recognizing the relationship between health status and socio-economic conditions of residents.
- Implementing those policies and strategies described elsewhere in this document which are directed toward improved socio-economic conditions of Detroit residents.
- Continuing Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program sponsored to assure that those receiving public assistance have access to preventive health care and early treatment.
- Encouraging the development and implementation of community health education programs to inform people about health, illness, disability, and ways to improve their own health.
- Supporting the strengthening of community mental health programs.
- Developing and implementing nonmoralistic educational programs, particularly directed at young people, which inform of the consequences and dangers of irresponsible use of alcohol and drugs.
- Encouraging industry involvement in health maintenance and promotion such as through exercise programs and provision of fitness facilities.
- Urging public schools to continue public immunization programs.
- Urging public schools to continue health protection programs in the schools.

❑ **POLICY 201-28: *Prevention and treatment of drug and alcohol abuse.***

Encourage programs that help to prevent drug and alcohol abuse, especially among young people, and programs that provide the necessary treatment for those people wishing to relinquish drug or alcohol dependency.

METHODS:

- Encouraging programs in the school system that teach youngsters self-esteem and let them know the potential dangers of drug or alcohol abuse.
- Encouraging the formation of support groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous to assist those who need continued reinforcement after treatment for drug or alcohol dependency.
- Providing a variety of types and levels of treatment for drug users.
- Continuing those existing drug treatment centers operated by the City.
- Providing drug education programs using funds acquired through impoundment.

❑ **POLICY 201-29: *Mental health.***

Urge State agencies to review the results of cost-cutting efforts and develop programs when they are needed.

METHOD:

Urging State action to develop improved alternatives to deinstitutionalization of the mentally ill, particularly for the existing and potential homeless population.

❑ **POLICY 201-30: *Health system.***

Recognize the necessity for accessible and available medical resources for Detroit residents, and further recognize the labor intensive nature of the health care industry. Detroit should remain the regional center for medical care and should be established as a center for research and development of medical technology.

METHODS:

- Supporting efforts to enhance the Detroit Medical Center and discouraging the trend toward hospital proliferation.
- Support accessibility of health facilities for veterans in the Detroit metropolitan area by the relocation of the Veterans Administration Hospital to the Medical Center.
- Making all efforts to attract medical research and development activities to the Medical Center.

❑ **POLICY 201-31: *Health care.***

Support those measures which assure access to and delivery of comprehensive health care to every resident.

METHODS:

- Encouraging home health care and day care as a viable, cost-containing alternative to in-patient care.
- Supporting strong enforcement of public statutes affecting communicable diseases.
- Aggressively acting to treat and isolate if necessary diagnosed cases of communicable and infectious diseases including Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).
- Intensifying programs aimed at rodent, animal, and lead control.
- Supporting mobile health teams to treat the homeless.
- Requiring open access to medical facilities in the City for all City residents and their physicians.

❑ **POLICY 201-32: *Physical and mental well-being.***

Encourage and support active measures to upgrade and maintain high levels of physical and mental well-being of the individuals of the community.

METHODS:

Treating mental health services as a complement to and coordinated with physical health services. Improving coordination of community health services and facilities with other social services in the City would be a beginning step in establishing a more effective network of helping services.

PUBLIC PROTECTION POLICIES

❑ **POLICY 201-33: *Police Department Image.***

Continue to promote the image of the Police Department as an integral part of the community, representing social order and the general well-being of the community.

METHODS:

- Increasing police presence and visibility throughout the City for other than criminal activities.
- Increasing Police Athletic League (PAL) activities.
- Initiating Police Department involvement in schools.
- Encouraging the participation and assistance of the media in forming opinions relative to the role of police in improving the general quality of life and image of the community.
- Accentuating to the Police Department personnel that their role is to help citizens, not just fight crime.

❑ **POLICY 201-34: *Efficiency of the Police Department.***

Maintain an efficient Police Department capable of responding to and preventing criminal activity.

METHODS:

- Increasing police presence and visibility.

- Concentrating efforts to rid our community of the career criminals.
- Actively promoting cooperative crime prevention efforts between government, the private sector, and citizens.
- Increasing efforts to organize neighborhood-watch type groups and other crime prevention programs.
- Seeking funds for public protection and the criminal justice system.
- Implementing fully the Precinct Reorganization Plan to equalize workloads and improve efficiency.
- Investigating and adopting proven technological advances to improve police service.

❑ **POLICY 201-35: *Integrated Police Department.***

Maintain a well-integrated Police Department, providing services in a non-discriminatory fashion.

METHODS:

- Continuing the court approved affirmative action policy.
- Continuing to promote and recruit superior applicants.
- Continuing to stress police nondiscriminatory attitudes toward the public.

❑ **POLICY 201-36: *Community participation in crime prevention.***

Increase the participation of the community in crime prevention programs.

METHODS:

- Expanding on Detroit's leadership role by encouraging neighborhood revitalization strategies that incorporate both physical and social crime prevention techniques. The primary objective must be to reduce the fear of crime in our city.

- Recognizing the importance of the media in forming opinions, encouraging the media to be more sensitive to crime issues. Aim to reduce fear of crime and increase the community's sense that social order exists.
- Encouraging neighborhood business expansion in the City through the use of tax incentives and other methods.

□ **POLICY 201-37: *Drug enforcement.***

Discourage and eliminate the production, importation, distribution, or sale of narcotics in Detroit. Discourage the availability of all items used in the manufacture and use of narcotics.

METHODS:

- Supporting efforts of the Federal government to halt the narcotics trade at the national and international level.
- Increasing surveillance and arrest of local drug dealers and their employees.
- Continuing programs of arresting drug users.

□ **POLICY 201-38: *Fire protection: focusing on prevention and education.***

Continue to protect human life and property from the perils of fire, focusing on fire prevention awareness and education.

METHODS:

- Implementing a computer system capable of providing information about the flammable or hazardous contents of structures in areas.
- Continuing to conduct an effective educational program dealing with fire prevention.
- Encouraging the use of smoke detectors and home fire extinguishers.
- Encouraging continued Federal financial participation in local fire protection efforts.

- Continuing to maintain a Fire Department that is capable of responding effectively to all fire emergencies.
- Continuing to insure that residential units are escapable in emergency situations.
- Encouraging the introduction of more fire retardant material in buildings and elsewhere and introducing self-extinguishing cigarettes.
- Promoting efforts to eliminate the willful act of false fire alarms. Continuing to conduct analysis of fires that occur along with their underlying causes.

□ **POLICY 201-39: *Fire: code enforcement and elimination of fire hazards.***

Enforce all appropriate code requirements and develop programs to provide for the elimination of structural fire hazards.

METHODS:

- Continuing to conduct regular code inspection programs.
- Emphasizing fire prevention through public education inspection, regulation, and incentives.
- Developing programs that provide for the elimination of structural fire hazards.
- Making a comprehensive reexamination of all legislation dealing with fire protection.
- Encouraging property maintenance practices to eliminate the accumulation of refuse and combustibles.

□ **POLICY 201-40: *Additional prison space.***

Provide additional prison space to incarcerate felons.

METHODS:

- Giving an appropriate prison sentence for repeat offenders.

- Promoting support of additional prison space.
- Finding alternatives to the Emergency Powers Act which reduces prison sentences as the result of overcrowding.

❑ **POLICY 201-41: *Juvenile court system.***

Improve the effectiveness of the juvenile court system.

METHODS:

- Making prevention the primary goal in treating potential juvenile offenders.
- Remanding juveniles demonstrating a pattern of violent criminal activity to the adult court system.
- Other than for status offenses, requiring juveniles charged with a crime to appear with their parents in Juvenile Court.
- Including restitution and community service in juvenile sentences.
- Holding parents accountable for the actions of their children.
- Providing adequate detention facilities for juvenile offenders.

❑ **POLICY 201-42: *Educational system and criminality.***

Support and improve the educational system to help prevent growth of criminality.

METHODS:

- Training teachers, counselors, and volunteers to recognize students who are undergoing difficulty in learning or coping.
- Building support programs into the school system and other institutions to counteract unstable family life and negative role models.
- Using schools as a building block for neighborhood development.

- Encouraging increased funding of local education through a more broad-based, equitable tax structure.
- Actively promoting stronger linkages between the Police Department and the educational system.
- Fostering Head Start and child abuse prevention programs.

❑ **POLICY 201-43: *Anti-crime legislation.***

Investigate and utilize Federal and State anti-crime legislation.

METHODS:

- Actively seeking anti-crime grants to provide for more police officers in the neighborhoods and increased citizen involvement.
- Promoting efforts to include social and economic programs as crime prevention measures.
- Making comprehensive examination of the effectiveness of all anti-crime legislation.

❑ **POLICY 201-44: *Economic factors and their effect on criminal behavior.***

Recognize that unemployment and/or the lack of opportunities for economic advancement are particularly acute for many Detroiters.

METHODS:

- Convincing businesses and manufacturers to locate jobs in Detroit.
- Carrying out the Master Plan policies for economic development.

❑ **POLICY 201-45: *Prevention of arson.***

Remove dilapidated and vacant structures that are prime targets of malicious fires and arson.

METHODS:

- Identifying arson-prone areas and target appropriate special programs.
- Boarding or demolishing vacant or vandalized structures.
- Encouraging immediate demolition of dangerous buildings.
- Eliminating improper dumping and open storage of combustibles.

❑ **POLICY 201-46: *Arson penalties.***

Eliminate incentives and encourage severe penalties against those engaging in arson.

METHODS:

- Working with insurance companies to identify fires caused by arson, thereby invalidating insurance claims and reducing arson-for-profit.
- Identifying arson-prone areas and targeting appropriate special programs.
- Investigating measures that would lead to mandatory sentencing for persons convicted of arson.
- Educating the criminal justice network to the social and economic damage caused by arson and to the need for stronger sanctions.
- Instilling values in the citizenry that will reduce arson stemming from malicious acts.

❑ **POLICY 201-47: *Response to disaster.***

Improve the capacity of the City of Detroit to respond to any kind of natural or man-made disaster.

METHODS:

- Maintaining and updating adopted City emergency plans.

- Acquiring additional communications equipment for the Emergency Operations Center.
- Improving the City warning siren system.
- Continuing the periodic training exercises for designated City emergency personnel.
- Conducting an expanded education program for departments and for the general public.
- Maintaining liaison with other State and Federal agencies with emergency-related responsibilities.

SOCIAL SERVICES POLICIES

□ POLICY 201-48: *Child, spouse, and parent abuse.*

Place a high priority on the prevention of child, spouse, and parent abuse.

METHODS:

- Putting a stronger emphasis on early detection of children at risk or likely to be at risk with special emphasis on infants because normal community surveillance of infant abuse is difficult.
- Providing temporary shelters and encouraging the availability of legal counsel for battered spouses.
- Developing programs to deal with parent abuse.

□ POLICY 201-49: *Consumer education.*

Continue to deliver the educational and informational services necessary to enhance the daily living conditions of the citizens of the City.

METHOD:

Processing consumer complaints promptly, providing statistics on trends and information about new needs for consumer protection and, in general, continuing

to reduce the incidence of consumer misspending and fraud against consumers through consumer education and information.

❑ **POLICY 201-50: *Neighborhood self-help.***

Actively support neighborhood or community-based self-help organizations which are engaging in local housing construction/conservation/rehabilitation efforts.

METHODS:

- Encouraging clean-up, lot maintenance, and reuse projects of all types which would contribute to improvements in the neighborhood areas. Initiating City-supported small-scale neighborhood improvement projects for the purpose of demonstrating the effectiveness of such efforts.
- Supporting neighborhood-based housing programs and providing them with a wider variety of services and expertise.
- Promoting wider and increased publication of successful neighborhood self-help initiatives.
- Considering policies to bring about legal transfer of ownership or management control from owners who abandon or disinvest in their property to tenants.
- Reviewing City housing programs to consider possible revisions or new programs that will provide additional financial resources.
- Seeking financial and technical assistance to support community-based neighborhood housing efforts.
- Promoting and encouraging increased private initiatives in City programs and community efforts.
- Instituting an electronic data processing capability to support neighborhood housing activities and community-based organizations.
- Providing new housing units for moderate income persons using sweat equity and owner-builder concepts.

- Considering establishing special zoning to provide neighborhoods with more latitude and a larger tool arsenal to enhance their own development and vitality.
- Encouraging programs to develop do-it-yourself skills for housing repair.

□ **POLICY 201-51: *Neighborhood stabilization.***

Use available housing resources as feasible to stabilize and/or revitalize neighborhood housing conditions and aid in reversing the process of physical-economic decline occurring in some City neighborhoods.

METHODS:

- Finding ways to shorten the tax foreclosure process and to shorten the period between housing abandonment and measures to secure houses from vandalism.
- Putting more emphasis on the obligations of property owners to maintain property.
- Giving priority to funding neighborhood programs that generate continued community investment.
- Working to improve the quality of repair contractors.
- Providing accurate information, informed counselors, and needed aid and advocacy services to City residents.
- Supporting efforts that will enable people with lower incomes to remain in stable, viable, but nonexclusionary City communities.
- Encouraging increased public, private, and community cooperation in neighborhood security efforts.
- Advertising neighborhood stabilization/revitalization efforts that are successful.
- Encouraging local merchants to sponsor community activities and to maintain a close relationship with the communities in which they are located.

❑ **POLICY 201-52: *Self-help for handicapped.***

Assist the handicapped to become as self-sufficient as possible.

METHODS:

- Developing and maintaining public buildings and facilities so as to facilitate the social, economic, and physical mobility of the handicapped and physically impaired.
- Unless totally impractical, encouraging and requiring private developers to make provisions for accessibility by the handicapped and physically impaired members of our society.
- Making provisions for the employment of handicapped and physically impaired persons in development projects.
- Carrying out public functions in forums that provide full accessibility to the handicapped and physically impaired.
- Avoiding erecting barriers that inhibit the free participation of the handicapped and physically impaired members of the community.

❑ **POLICY 201-53: *Neighborhoods as supportive environment for families.***

Every viable neighborhood should have the highest possible level of basic public services - clean water and air, public safety protection, housing support (code, zoning, and other ordinance enforcement), sewage and solid waste disposal, street maintenance, traffic and parking control, public health measures, transportation, education, etc.

METHODS:

- Determining the level of community organization and interaction with other entities at which the City can be most effective in supporting the efforts of community groups.
- Providing technical assistance to neighborhood groups in their efforts to relate to public and other agencies around problems with services at the neighborhood level.

- Providing supporting and technical assistance to community groups in identifying activities of a self-help nature to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods.
- Continuing and enhancing activities which place resources at the disposal of community level organizations for improvement of conditions.
- Strengthening the neighborhood participation level of City agencies in technical assistance, resource mobilization, and use of existing resources.
- Strengthening neighborhood level commercial establishments and assisting development of a productive resident-commercial service relationship.
- Continuing to advocate the interests of Detroit neighborhoods at State and SEMCOG levels in dealing with proposals which may result in the destabilizing of Detroit neighborhoods.

❑ **POLICY 201-54: *Social services to families and individuals.***

Determine the exact size, characteristics, and location of the population which is at risk in regard to adequate income, housing, and neighborhood conditions. External negative pressures on families should be reduced to the greatest degree possible.

METHODS:

- Seeking resources and collaboration (universities, United Community Services, et al) to develop and carry out a sophisticated assessment of its overall conditions.
- Involving its own and other neighborhood level organizations and agencies in a continuation study in targeted neighborhoods.
- Studying local impact of cuts and changes in legislation and regulation of Federal and State programs.
- Defining ways in which negative trends and negative impacts on people in Detroit can be lessened.

- Examining very closely the relationship between the condition of homelessness in the City and the State's program of deinstitutionalization of stabilized mentally ill persons.
- Seeking outside resources and collaboration to evaluate, propose strategies, and resources for action in regard to adequate social services.
- Seeking and establishing more effective coordination and planning such as United Community Services, schools, and New Detroit in the area of the development of income and the treatment of other social problems.
- Evaluating use of City resources in terms of their efficiency and effectiveness, the level of its commitment to easing the impact of social problems, and the determination of ways in which local government can be most effective in its activities in the areas of: influence; enlisting of highly skilled, capable private resources (human and monetary); coordination; technical assistance and financial support to skilled organizations and agencies.

□ **POLICY 201-55: *Non-traditional households.***

Support housing activities and programs engaged in providing adequate housing and support services to meet the housing needs of non-traditional households.

METHODS:

- Encouraging development of affordable and safe housing needed by non-traditional households, with a supportive environment for both adults and children.
- Supporting efforts to improve Single Room Occupancy (SRO).
- Supporting efforts to provide support services needed by non-traditional households.
- Monitoring conversions of SRO buildings to apartments, cooperatives, and condominiums that tend to displace SRO occupants.
- Supporting efforts to provide shared housing opportunities to non-traditional households which desire it.

❑ **POLICY 201-56: *Services for the homeless.***

Take action to reduce homelessness and to provide effective and coordinated services to the homeless.

METHODS:

- Developing additional units of transitional and permanent housing units dedicated to the homeless.
- Preserving current single-room occupancy buildings.
- Establishing a clearly designated coordinator of services to the homeless.
- Supporting the development of a comprehensive service center for homeless persons.
- Continuing to support agencies which provide services to the homeless.

❑ **POLICY 201-57: *Prenatal care and parenting skills.***

Every expectant mother should have access to good prenatal and follow-up care regardless of ability to pay.

METHOD:

Taking definite steps to determine the exact extent of lack of prenatal and follow-up care and cause mobilization of resources and cooperative efforts to combat in the areas of: infant health; teen pregnancies; training in parenting skills (for both parents); continued formal education for teen parents; coping skills for at risk parents (all ages and both parents) of infants; youth employment (male and female); strategies for involvement of both parents in the rearing and protection of the child; child abuse.

❑ **POLICY 201-58: *Elementary school-age children and their parents.***

Provide adequate protection of the health and welfare of this age group as a major deterrent to both future social adjustment problems and the costly remedial measures required to correct them.

METHODS:

- Maintaining community is especially important at this stage. These children are just beginning to move out of the family circle and to be required to negotiate broader systems (neighborhood and school, primarily) and to discover the nature of their community. Lack of safe passage in the neighborhoods between home and school causes children to become more vulnerable to abuse from persons external to the home, in addition to vulnerability in the home. The protective aspect of community is vital at this stage.
- Providing expanded programming in recreation centers for elementary and pre-adolescent age youngsters.
- Including protection of elementary school-age children in studies to determine exact conditions in Detroit in areas of: early childhood education and health status.
- Including action against child abuse in any concerted crime prevention program.
- Devising a definite plan for coordination of appropriate City services and assigning responsibility for the carrying out of the City's role.
- Maintaining methods and relationships whereby the City can be abreast of the status of the programs which do exist in the City, determining gaps in accessibility, and taking action at appropriate levels.

□ **POLICY 201-59: *Adolescent population.***

Provide adequate protection of the health and welfare of this age group as a major deterrent to both future social adjustment problems and the costly remedial measures required to correct them.

METHODS:

- Promoting neighborhood conservation.
- Promoting neighborhood and community atmosphere which is protective of children and youth.

- Promoting neighborhoods organized to be hospitable rather than hostile to youth.
- Publicly encouraging programs involving all of the neighborhood and higher level mechanisms for positive influence on youth, with involvement of the youth themselves in design and implementation.
- Local government should support the legislation for youth as well as adult employment - including wide ranging opportunities for voluntary work experiences.
- Providing local government support for equitable financing of educational institutions and special programs for the at risk population.
- Finding ways to help prevent teenage suicides.
- Provide adequate services to deal with those who run away from home.

❑ **POLICY 201-60: *Working parents.***

Encourage greater workplace flexibility to accommodate the needs of working parents with young children.

METHODS:

- Encouraging employers to make scheduling adjustments in the work place.
- Encouraging assistance to workers in regard to child care at or near work sites.

❑ **POLICY 201-61: *Independence for elderly persons in planning and managing their own lives (incomes).***

Elderly persons should be assured of income and support adequate to meet their basic needs.

METHODS:

- Actively promoting development of wide ranging opportunities for retraining and reemployment of Detroit's large unemployed middle-aged work force.

- Supporting legislation and other activities which protect opportunities for employment of those elderly persons who are able and desirous of working.
- Providing active legislative support for changes in Social Security laws which discriminate against women; namely, the inability to benefit from their own Social Security contribution independent of those of their spouses and the 10-year marriage duration clause in regard to divorced women.

□ **POLICY 201-62: *Independent old age (health and mobility).***

Services which assist elderly persons in achieving and maintaining physical health and mobility should be available and accessible without regard to economic status.

METHODS:

- Promoting activities which encourage elderly persons in achieving and maintaining physical health and mobility should be available and accessible without regard to economic status.
- Continuing and increasing programs encouraging good nutrition and other health promoting activities.
- Encouraging activities which emphasize training of health professionals (including doctors) in the field of geriatrics, helping the aging population to maintain high standards of health for the longest possible period of time.
- Encouraging programs which make adequate health care affordable for elderly persons.
- Encouraging appropriate public health nursing, in-home health care aide programs for the elderly, and day care as a viable alternative to the more expensive in-patient hospital and nursing care.
- Assuring handicap accessible buildings.
- Assuring transportation which is convenient and meets special needs at low cost.
- Monitoring population patterns of elderly persons to adjust public transportation facilities and services to meet changing needs of elderly.

- Involving elderly persons in the planning of programs to serve their age group and neighborhoods.

□ **POLICY 201-63: *Independent old age.***

A coordinated network of Social Services to older citizens should exist in the City, with special emphasis on services to elderly persons with special needs.

METHODS:

- Coordinating appropriate City services with those of other agencies providing services to the elderly.
- Encouraging the efforts of agencies to bring about a higher level of effectiveness and efficiency through coordination of their services.
- Encouraging programs which give wide ranging opportunities for passing on of values, skills, experiences from the senior generation to the younger.
- Providing programs which assist low and moderate income elderly persons with home repair and maintenance services